

Appl. No.: 09/764,526
Amdt. dated February 24, 2004
Reply to Office action of November 26, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A computerized method of saving version and product information of ~~at least one a~~ library in an executable program, comprising:
creating a version source file ~~for the at least one library, the at least one library having a name and containing one or more functions and, the~~ version source file containing a version function whose name comprises at least one of version information and product information pertaining to of the at least one library;
compiling the version source file to create a version object file;
rebuilding the ~~at least one library~~ to include the version object file; and
building the executable program ~~to include the at least one library such that the version function whose name comprises at least one of version information and product information of the library in the version object file is combined into the executable program.~~
2. (Currently Amended) A method of saving as recited in claim 1, wherein the ~~step of creating the version of the source file includes further comprises:~~
constructing a version string, the version string containing version and product identification information pertaining to the library;
combining function symbols with the version string to form [[a]] the version function;
creating a version source file whose name includes a keyword and the name of the at least one library; and
storing the version function in the version source file.
3. (Currently Amended) A method of saving as recited in claim 1, wherein ~~the step of creating the version source file includes further comprises:~~

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constructing a version string containing version and product identification
information pertaining to the library;
combining a build identifier and function symbols with the version string to
form a name of a ~~build-identified~~ the version function;
creating a version source file whose name includes a keyword and the
name of the library; and
storing the ~~build-identified~~ version function in the version source file.

4. (Original) A method of saving as recited in claim 3, wherein the build
identifier is a date on which the build occurs.

5. (Original) A method of saving as recited in claim 3, wherein the build
identifier is a number that uniquely identifies the build.

6. (Original) A method of saving as recited in claim 3, wherein the build
identifier of a user that performs the build.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of saving as recited in claim 1, wherein the
~~step of rebuilding the library includes further comprises:~~
removing any version object file from the library; and
remaking the library to include the version object file.

8. (Original) A method of saving as recited in claim 1, wherein building the
executable includes:
creating a temporary storage area;
obtaining the version object file from the library, the version object file
having a name that includes a keyword and the name of the library
in which the version object file resides;
storing the version object file in the temporary storage area; and

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compiling into the executable the stored version object file so that the executable contains the version and product information pertaining to the library.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of saving as recited in claim 1, wherein there is a plurality of libraries; and wherein ~~the steps of creating, compiling and rebuilding~~ are performed for each library of the plurality of libraries.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of saving as recited in claim 9, further comprising ~~the step of~~, prior to the building step, selecting from the plurality of libraries a group of libraries needed for the building of the executable, each library in the group having a version object file; and wherein building the executable includes:

creating a temporary storage area;
obtaining the version object file from each of the selected libraries, each version object file having a name that includes a keyword and the name of the library in which the version object file resides;
storing each of the version object files in the temporary storage area;
creating a list of the names of the stored version object files;
and
compiling into the executable each of the stored version object files in the list so that the executable contains any functions needed by the executable from each library in the group and the version and product information of each library of the group.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of saving as recited in claim 9, further comprising, ~~the steps of~~, prior to the building of the executable,

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selecting a group of libraries from the plurality of libraries,
each library in the group having a version object file;
building a compound library from the selected group of
libraries, the compound library including a version
object file for the compound library and the version
object files of each library in the group; and
wherein ~~the step of~~ building the executable includes building an executable
to include the compound library, such that the version and product
information of the compound library and each library in the selected
group are combined into the executable program.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of saving a recited in claim 11, wherein the
~~step of building a compound library includes~~ further comprises:

creating a temporary storage area for holding the object files of each library
of the selected group and the version object file for the compound
library;
extracting all object files, including the version object files, from each library
of the selected group;
storing the extracted object files for all libraries of the selected group in the
temporary storage area;
creating a version source file for the compound library, the version source
file for the compound library containing version and product
information pertaining to the compound library;
compiling the version source file to create a version object file for the
compound library;
storing the version object file in the temporary storage area;
building the compound library from the object files stored in the temporary
storage area;
saving the compound library in a library storage area; and
deleting the temporary storage area.

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13. (Currently Amended) A method of saving as recited in claim 9,
further comprising, ~~the steps of:~~ prior to the building of the executable,
selecting a group of libraries from the plurality of libraries, the
group including at least one compound library, and
each library in the group having at least one version
object file; and
building a multiple compound library from the selected group
of libraries, the multiple compound library including a
version object file for the multiple compound library
and the version object files of each library in the group;
and
wherein ~~the step of~~ building the executable includes building an executable
to include the multiple compound library, such that the version and
product information of the multiple compound library and each
library in the selected group are combined into the executable
program.
14. (New) A method comprising:
creating source code file containing a function whose name comprises
version information of a library;
compiling the source code file to create an object file placed within the
library; and
building an executable program using at least the function from the library
such that the version information is contained in the executable
program through the presence of the function.
15. (New) The method as defined in claim 14 further comprising creating the
source code file containing a void function with an empty body.
16. (New) The method as defined in claim 14 further comprising creating the
source code file containing a non-void function with text in the body.

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17. (New) The method as defined in claim 14 further comprising creating the source code file containing the function whose name also comprises product information, and wherein the product information is contained in the executable program through the presence of the function.
